

It appears that the central organ of the Republican party of Indiana is determined to keep before the people the idea of a Northern Conference. Why perpetuate this idea, and agitate the advantages and disadvantages of a separation from the Eastern States, and the impossibility of interests between the two sections, unless the party it represents has ulterior purposes in view? It has been for a long time trying to force a controversy upon that question, but as yet it has the field of controversy entirely to itself. Upon such an issue it will win. The Journal is an advocate of disunion. In the fall of 1861 it proposed a peaceful separation from all the States that desired to leave the Union. It repeated the doctrine of a dozen States as a less evil, incomparably, than the horrors and exhibition of a civil war. These opinions it yet entertains. Governor Morton, in a speech in Washington a few weeks ago, said that a separation of the Northern States was inevitable if the South established its independence. The deliberate declaration of His Excellency and the continual agitation of the project of a Northern Conference by the Journal, taken together, have a significance. There can be no doubt but the Republican leaders look to the foundation of an empire in the Northwest if the rebellion should prove a success. We have no question but they have fully matured such a scheme, and if the later contingency should occur, the attempt will be made by them to carry it out.

The charge of the Journal that any portion of the Democracy entertain the project of separating the East from the West, and attaching the latter to the Southern Confederacy, has nothing whatever to justify it. Far different has been the expression. No higher devotion to the Union, or sincere desire to maintain it in all its integrity, has been exhibited by any other portion of the people than by the Democracy of the Northwest. And these States have a common interest in preserving the free navigation of the Mississippi as an outlet for their commerce—in interest they never will yield. They can not consent that any portion of that great highway shall be surrendered to a foreign power. Such is the sentiment of the Indiana Democracy. But the Journal, Gov. Morton & Co., seem to be willing to give up the free navigation of this most important artery for the trade of the West, to establish a confederacy of the Northwestern States, without controlling a communication of any kind to the seaboard.

In this connection the Journal states that it is a favorite project with Mr. Hendricks to separate the Northwest from the Union and attach it to the rebel Confederacy. No such project has ever been advocated by him, openly or covertly. But justly he has insisted that there should be maintained the freest communication between the Northwestern States and the great and fertile regions upon the Gulf of Mexico. The Eastern States have no interest in the free navigation of the Mississippi. It is their policy to make tributary to them the already immense and growing trade of the Northwest. That outlet closed the trade of the West, as it now is, would be forced over the lines of transportation eastward owned by Eastern capitalists, so subject to such tolls as they may see fit to impose, as they now do. This was the sentiment expressed by Mr. Hendricks and it will find a response with every man, whether he come from the East or South or from a foreign soil, whose home is in the West and whose interests are identified with its prosperity. In the 8th of January Convention he said:

The first and highest interest of the Northwest is in the restoration and preservation of the Union upon the basis of the Constitution—and the open elevation of her Democracy to the cause of the Union is alone by its fidelity in the past, but if the failure and fall of wickedness of the party in power render a Union impossible, then the mighty Northwest must take care of herself and her own interests. She must and will have the arms and force of New England to defend her of her richest commerce and trade, and to render her labor wholly subservient to an Eastern sectional, anti-union policy—Eastern lust of power, commerce, and gain.

Will any Western man object to such a policy? We shall never lose an Eastern market. The self-interest of New England will not permit it. And to prevent us from being subservient to Eastern lust of power, commerce, and gain, we must have a Southern market, and to secure and retain it the free navigation of the Mississippi must be maintained at all hazards. But the Journal says so. Its policy is to let the Southern States, if they will, depart in peace; and but the other day it said if the rebel would lay down their arms it would concede to them an independent nationality. That's the difference in the policy between the Democracy and the Journal's party. Who can hesitate as to the interests of the West?

Correspondence of the Philadelphia Press.
General Banks to Texas.
WASHINGTON, October 28.

The departure of Major General Banks for New York on Monday afternoon, there to open his headquarters, and to organize the great expedition about to be set on foot under his command, marks one of the most important epochs of this war. Various conjectures, near and wide of the truth, will of course be hazarded as to the design and destination of this important expedition. Information derived from various sources and inferences from sundry facts induce me to believe that the following will be found, substantially, the aim and purpose of this new movement. The attention of the Government of the United States has, for a long time, been earnestly directed to Texas, and the maintenance of the military operations to restore the Federal authority in that State has been strongly and persistently urged by several delegations of loyal Texans, under the solemn assurance that a large portion of the people of Texas are only waiting for an opportunity to return to their allegiance, and establish within their boundaries, one or more free States. To accomplish this vast design was undoubtedly the object of the expedition under Gen. Banks. Only two weeks ago an expedition also looking toward Texas, after first clearing the Mississippi of rebel obstructions, was introduced to Major General John A. McClernand, of Illinois, who is now in the Western States earnestly engaged in its organization. The concurrent movement on the seaboard, headed by Gen. Banks, and looking to the same object after having seen long and favorably considered by the military authorities, has now been formally decided upon.

There is no doubt but that an expedition is being fitted out for the reconquest of Texas. Gen. Banks has his headquarters in New York preparing for it, as we are advised by leaky Republican officials and presses. Whether it is the part of wisdom to advertise the rebels of the designs of the Government we will leave it for what HENRY WARD BEECHER calls a "weak and helpless" Administration to determine. We ask the reader to direct his attention to the object of the expedition, as developed by the correspondent who is about establishing an Administration organ in Washington, and who is supposed to enjoy its confidence. It is ostensibly to restore the Federal authority in that State "under the solemn assurance that a large portion of the people of Texas are only waiting for an opportunity to return to their allegiance." The Administration then intends to develop the Union sentiment in Texas by giving it that material aid necessary for its protection. The idea upon which the Administration now proposes to act in bringing back

Texas to its allegiance to the Government was suggested in the resolutions of the 8th of January Convention, and which the Republican press imputes to the Government as the cause of disloyalty. One of those resolutions reads thus:

That the maintenance of the Union upon the principles of the Federal Constitution should be the controlling object of all who profess loyalty to the Government, and in our judgment this purpose can only be accomplished by the ascendancy of a Union party in the Southern States, which shall, by a counter-revolution, displace those who control and direct the present rebellion.

The Administration it appears proposes the expedition to Texas to aid the "ascendancy of a Union party," as it is advised that a large portion of the people of that State are only waiting for an opportunity to return to their allegiance and thus give them an opportunity by a counter-revolution to displace those who control and direct the present rebellion. This we see the much abused and derided 8th of January platform is already adopted in part by the Republican Administration, as its present policy. Are Mr. Lincoln and his advisers beginning to dialy or are they looking upon the exigencies of the country and the agencies necessary for the restoration of the Union through a wiser and more sagacious medium? Long since the rebellion would have ended, and it is doubtful whether civil war would have been inaugurated, if Mr. Lincoln had from the beginning made it the policy of his administration to develop and sustain a Union party in the Southern States, accompanied with the assurance that it had no intention to interfere with slavery where it existed or in any manner subvert the constitutional rights of any of the States. It has been the growing distrust as to his purposes in these regards, developed in his emancipation propositions and finally in his proclamation for the abolition of slavery, that has given and still continues to give strength, determination and persistence to the rebellion.

Abolition Criticism.
The New York Independent, a religious Abolition newspaper, enjoying the patronage of the Administration, in its last week's issue, thus characterizes what it terms its "unperipatetic inefficiency":

There is a deep, widespread, and increasing discontent with the Administration. And it is simply and only because it is weak and helpless. But the country is going toward disunion, and toward despotism, because of the most honest men that ever held the Presidential chair are not men of affairs.

If a Democratic editor had expressed such a sentiment, promptly he would have found himself in a Government battle for "disloyal practices." But Abolitionists can condemn what they term a "weak and helpless" Administration with impunity.

From the Boston Post.
Letter from Judge Parker.
We hereby intend to call attention to the letter to the people of Massachusetts, which we print today, by Judge Parker. It will speak for itself. Its author for five years was an Associate Justice in New Hampshire, and for ten years the Chief Justice, and his learning and ability made him a law power at Harvard. By signing, in common with about two thousand citizens, the call for the People's Convention, and by this strongly put letter, he evinces his desire to serve the best interests of our common country. It is his duty to reveal the mischiefs of the rebellion, and to advise to the best of his feeling, to her immense detriment, the terrible radicalism of this momentous hour.

[EXTRACTS]
I should not presume to address you, with this elaborate personal preface, were it not for a profound conviction that the approaching election in this State is to be one of the most important, perhaps the most important, of any which has ever been held within its borders. Important, not only as it may affect the honor and interest of the State, but deeply and of good or ill to the nation, and to the hopes of constitutional liberty throughout the world. Unless something can be accomplished to stay the torrent of corruption which has recently been pouring in upon us like an overwhelming flood—unless a stop can be put to the utter perversion of the elective franchise, which has been increased in certain quarters from day to day, for some years past—unless we can stand by the Constitution at the same time that we stand by the law—leave, in my opinion, no reasonable prospect before us, except final disaster and, finally, with perhaps a repetition of the horrible scenes of the French revolution.

The portals of the times have long been ominous of evil, but the onsets of the last few days are significant beyond those of any former period. It is revolutionary in its character and corrupting in its influence, when the members of Congress, inspired by the notions of other men, have elected to support a man who, in the power of appointing to offices was vested, (and who was thus made constitutionally responsible that suitable persons should be selected to fill various offices), and by systematically parceling out the appointments under their own patronage, made them the means of directly rewarding the services of those who had labored in the election, and of serving like bribes to those to induce them to help in their election. We need representatives—we have them not already—who will not use the influence of their stations to subvert the proper power and responsibility of the several departments, and who will moreover protect efficiency against such an abuse by others.

It was evidence of widespread corruption, when, upon its being ascertained beyond denial that a member of the Senate had prostituted his official station and influence, by procuring a contract so profitable that it was to receive the enormous reward of fifty thousand dollars, the Senate failed to expel him with disgrace and indignity. We want Senators who will not expect themselves to be successful in connection with the State, but who will use their influence to the benefit of that body. The most atrocious frauds have been perpetrated in connection with the war, and how many of these contractors have been obtained through official influence of members of Congress, and what compensation has been paid or promised for that influence, we shall never know to the full extent, but enough has been exposed recently to show the necessity of a reform in this branch of the public service.

The Constitution of the United States forbids the several States to enter into any treaty, alliance or compact, or to enter into any agreement or compact with another State, and the spirit of the provision is in direct hostility to union and agreements between Governors of States with each other, as Governors, representing their several States. Such combinations and agreements are not necessary for the protection of State rights, or the performance of State duties. There has been, and is, no necessity for Governors of States, in order to support, in their several jurisdictions, of a vigorous prosecution of the war; and there should not be any such combinations to coerce or press the President into any measures, of any description. They are an unconstitutional and an unwarranted interference with his authority, assuming great weight and force from the official character of those who thus interfere, and still greater weight from their combined action; and they tend to shift the responsibility of action from the elected head of the nation to an irresponsible cabal. It is readily seen that they may be made the means of immeasurable and irreparable mischief. You can cause of that character have been held within a few weeks; the purposes and conditions being left secret. And the various reasons for the callings being vague, and altogether insufficient, lead to a reasonable belief that they were not the real cause.

We need an officer in the Executive chair of the Commonwealth who, when his error in attending such unwarrantable assemblies is pointed out, will not attempt to maintain that they are right and proper, representing them as "private circles," and who will moreover not only scrupulously refrain from participating in such combinations in the future, but will strenuously discommence them.

Whether the design of procuring the removal of Gen. McClellan has or has not entered into the contemplation of the Governors who have heretofore assembled, that design is still under consideration, and has not yet been acted on. The Boston Herald of the very last evening, through the Washington correspondent, under the heading, "Why General McClellan is retained," announced, "states that the New York Democratic politicians are desirous of a meeting, with whom to carry the November election, and that the

President does not intend to gratify them, and so McClellan will remain in position, and the present. This evening upon the President, that he retains McClellan in command because his removal would affect the New York election, leaving the inference that his removal will take place upon the election of the President. The inference still extends to insist upon that change as a sufficient reason to be brought to bear upon the President. And the conviction that the election of next week may do much, either to sustain that cabinet, or to leave him to the tender mercies of his persecutors, may induce us to additional efforts to displace those who have long been inimical to him.

But the matters which I have thus far alluded sink into comparative insignificance when we consider other recent events.

A Convention, as you well know, held at Worcester, on the 10th of September, professing to represent the Republican party of Massachusetts, refused, notwithstanding the earnest entreaties of distinguished individuals, to pass a resolution to support the President in the prosecution of the war.

A call was issued, not long afterwards, for a Convention of the People, respectively of party, to be held at Faneuil Hall on the 7th of October, for the purpose of nominating candidates for State officers, and taking counsel together for the restoration of the Union.

On the 22d of September the President issued the proclamation of his intentions respecting the mode of carrying on the war after the 1st of January, when the ultra gentlemen who were eager to see the war ended, were affected to consider a proclamation of emancipation; and thereupon, with the zeal of new born converts, they became indignant in their indignation, and loud in their expressions of their determination to support the President.

At the Convention, on the 7th of October, some fifteen or sixteen hundred assembled at Faneuil Hall. It is certainly no disrespect to any other Convention to say that this one comprised a body of men as respectable as any ever assembled in the State; and in the course of the proceedings they resolved unanimously, among other things, that—

"We do hereby, with all our heart, soul and strength, and with all our property, to conquer and subvert the rebellion. We make, therefore, no explicit criticism of the President's acts and declarations. We burden him with no party or partisan policy. We offer no conditions of our patriotism. We resolve that Massachusetts, with all her heart and soul and mind and strength, will support the President of the United States in the prosecution of the war to the end and final suppression of the rebellion."

The language of those who addressed the Convention was in accordance with this resolution. Now, it would seem that the explicit, express, and unanimous declaration of the members of a convention representing three hundred towns, to give an unconditional support to the President in the prosecution of the war, whatever might be their private views respecting the right of the President to issue a proclamation of emancipation, or respecting his actual effect, should have been hailed with delight by every true patriot, as conclusive evidence that, whoever might be confident, and whatever the result of the State canvass, Massachusetts would stand by the prosecution of the war and the suppression of the rebellion, the united energies of her whole people.

The convention made no reservation in declaring that their support depended upon the election of any of their candidates for office. But, for good and sufficient reasons, they declined to support Gov. Andrew, and indicated no preference for Mr. Sumner, and thereupon it seems that the Worcester Convention, who do not support the President without a proclamation, have determined, so far as in them lies, that all who oppose the re-election of those gentlemen shall not support the President even with a proclamation. With such a spirit of division, such dates, not love of country, is the test of patriotism. They are bent upon division in support of the President and the prosecution of the war, and do not believe that their support will be the least of any of their candidates for office. But, for good and sufficient reasons, they declined to support Gov. 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